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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/899,817	07/09/2001	Yasuyuki Mochizuki	Q63877	1110

7590

09/25/2002

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EXAMINER

PAIK, STEVE S

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2876

DATE MAILED: 09/25/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application N .

09/899,817

Applicant(s)

MOCHIZUKI, YASUYUKI

Examiner

Steven S. Paik

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 7/9/01.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 09 July 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 4.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

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DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Claim Objections

2. Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities: the recited limitations "to predetermined image processing" and "obtain processed image data" in line 5 may recite the claimed subject matter more clearly by amending them as -- to a predetermined image processing -- and -- obtain a processed image data --, respectively. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Suzuki (USP 6,072,916) in view of Kashiwagi et al. (USP 5,126,540).

Re claims 1, 6 and 9 Suzuki discloses an image forming apparatus comprising a reading device (14 in figure 1) for photoelectrically reading an image of an original to obtain digital image data (col. 4, ll. 6-8), an image processor (10) for subjecting the digital image data to predetermined image processing (col. 4, ll. 57-59) to obtain processed image data, a printer (16) for outputting a print according to the processed image data, and an image recording device for

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outputting the image processed data to an image file (col. 5, ll. 8-12). However, Suzuki fails to teach both of outputting the print with the printer and outputting the image file with the image recording device further comprising an original identifying information input device for inputting information for identifying the original before the original is read and a data base for storing the inputted original identifying information in relation to the image file.

Kashiwagi discloses an image recording device provided with a reader (barcode scanner 6) for reading information for identifying the original image and a recorder for recording the original on a recording medium (col. 1, ll. 7-11). The image recording device provides capability of controlling the feeding of original documents and enabling precise and efficient input operation. He further discloses a database for storing the inputted original identifying information (bar code) to the image file (col. 4, ll. 3-6). The barcode data A is stored in the memory and the frame numbers B representing the image frames of the document are stored in the memory in the sequential order corresponding to the bar code data A for easy and secure retrieval of the document.

Thus, it would have been obvious to an artisan of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to further employ an image recording device for reading information for identifying the original image and a recorder for recording the original on a recording medium, as taught by Kashiwagi, in addition to the image forming apparatus of Suzuki due to the fact that a image recording device with the capability of controlling the feeding of original document can enable precise and efficient input operation for the purpose of easy, secure and efficient retrieval of the document.

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Regarding claim 2, Suzuki in view of Kashiwagi discloses the image forming apparatus as recited in rejected claim 1 stated above, where the original identifying information input device is a bar code reader (6 in Fig. 2 of Kashiwagi).

Regarding claim 3, Suzuki in view of Kashiwagi discloses the image forming apparatus as recited in rejected claim 1 stated above, where the original identifying information input device is the reading device (bar code reader) for photoelectrically reading the original, and an identifier (A and B in Fig. 5 or Fig. 20) having a marker (bar code) attached thereto, which shows information for identifying the original and can be photoelectrically read, is disposed to an extreme end (upper right) of original, and the marker is read by the reading device at the same time the image of the original is read.

Regarding claim 4, Suzuki in view of Kashiwagi discloses the image forming apparatus as recited in rejected claim 1 stated above, where the original identifying information input device (barcode reader) is the reading device for photoelectrically reading the original and further comprises a unit for magnetically reading information (col. 7, ll. 17-23), an identifier having a marker attached thereto, which shows information for identifying the original and can be magnetically read, is disposed to an extreme end (upper right) of original, and the marker is read by the reading device at the same time the image of the original is read (col. 7, ll. 24-30).

Regarding claim 5, Suzuki in view of Kashiwagi discloses the image forming apparatus as recited in rejected claim 1 stated above, in which the original identifying information input device is a device through which an operator inputs information for identifying the original as a character string (col. 8, ll. 53-57).

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Regarding claims 7 and 8, Suzuki in view of Kashiwagi discloses the image forming apparatus as recited in rejected claim 1 stated above, further comprising a print device (16 in Fig. 1 of Suzuki) for back printing the information for identifying the original on the print.

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.


Eng et al. (USP 4,652,733) disclose a technique for automatically cataloging and storing pictorial and written sections of information.

Katsuta et al. (USP 4,797,946) disclose an information recording and retrieval device registering information by storing retrieval information.

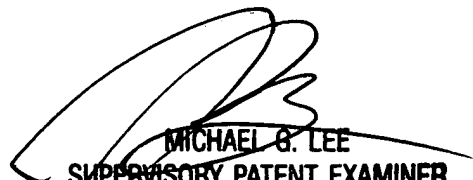
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Steven S. Paik whose telephone number is 703-308-6190. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Fri (7:00am-3:30pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael G. Lee can be reached on 703-305-3503. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-746-6893 for regular communications and 703-308-7722 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0530.


Steven S. Paik
Examiner, Art Unit 2876

ssp
September 11, 2002


MICHAEL G. LEE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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